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CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER

24-HOUR REPORT

23 AUGUST 2017

(U) CALIFORNIA

(U) Oceanside - Data Breach Affects Online Utility Payment System

(U) The online payment system where Oceanside residents can pay their utility bills may have been breached, City of Oceanside officials said yesterday. Officials first learned of the breach when several Oceanside residents alerted the City, saying the cards they used to pay their utility bills had unauthorized charges. After learning of the potential breach, the City shut down its online utility bill payment system and began an internal assessment. Law enforcement officials were notified and cyber security experts were brought in to conduct a forensic analysis.

SOURCE: 22 August 2017, NBC San Diego

(U) NATIONAL

(U) District of Columbia – US Issues Travel Warning for Mexico

(U) Washington – The US State Department expanded its travel advisories yesterday to warn of dangers in parts of Mexico, like the Caribbean coast, that previously hadn't been covered by such alerts. The new travel advisory doesn't mention the Caribbean resorts of Cancun or Playa del Carmen by name, but the advisory says, "turf battles between criminal groups have resulted in violent crime in areas frequented by US citizens." Warnings have also been extended to the Gulf coast state of Veracruz and the southern state of Chiapas, which previously didn't have them. The warnings for Baja California Sur state were changed to reflect violence occurring throughout the state, which includes the resorts of Los Cabos. The previous advisory had mostly mentioned the capital, La Paz.

SOURCE: 22 August 2017, Associated Press

(U) New York - Nine Gang Members Charged in New York City Crackdown

(U) New York – New York City prosecutors have charged nine reputed gang members with murder, weapons, and other charges in seven shootings that left one person dead and 13 injured. Prosecutors say the Loot Gang used private Facebook messages and FaceTime to communicate about obtaining weapons. The gang members also boasted publicly online about violence, flashed gang signs, and posted music videos meant to antagonize rival gang members, according to prosecutors.

SOURCE: 22 August 2017, Associated Press

(U) INTERNATIONAL

(U) Finland - Moroccan Man Admits Deadly Stabbing in Finland

(U) Turku – A Moroccan man has admitted to his role in a deadly stabbing rampage last week, which the authorities have called Finland's first terrorist attack in decades, officials announced yesterday. Police said that the man — who has been tentatively identified as Abderrahman Mechkah, 18, and who appeared in court via a video feed from his hospital bed — had admitted to the stabbings. A police detective told journalists that they are still investigating whether Mechkah acted alone, whether his actions were guided or influenced by someone else, and even his true name and age.

SOURCE: 22 August 2017, The New York Times

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(U) Indonesia – Police Name Cleric Key Suspect in 2016 Attack

(U) Jakarta – Indonesian police yesterday named a radical Islamic cleric as the key suspect in a suicide bombing and gun attack that killed eight people in Jakarta last year. A national police spokesman said Aman Abdurrahman, the leader of an ISIS-affiliated militant network, ordered the 14 January 2016 attack from prison. About 40 militants have been arrested for links to the 2016 attack that began with a suicide bombing inside a Starbucks cafe in a busy shopping area in downtown Jakarta. Four militants and four bystanders were killed.

SOURCE: 22 August 2017, Associated Press

(U) Spain – Spain Terror Suspects Bought Edged Weapons After First Van Attack

(U) Barcelona – Members of a Spanish terror cell bought knives and an ax between the first and second fatal attacks in the country's Catalonia region last week, court documents show. The detail came to light yesterday as a National Court Judge issued orders to jail two of the surviving suspects without bail and provisionally freed another. Fifteen people were killed in the vehicle attacks in Barcelona and the seaside town of Cambrils. The documents say the cell was forced to improvise or carry out alternate plans of violence after the house where they were making bombs exploded last week. SOURCE: 22 August 2017, Associated Press

(U) Switzerland – UNICEF: Boko Haram Child Bombings This Year Quadruple 2016 Numbers

(U) Geneva – Boko Haram militants in northeast Nigeria have sent out four times as many child suicide bombers this year as they used in all of 2016, the United Nations Children's Fund said yesterday. Eighty-three children had been used as bombers since 1 January 2017, UNICEF said. Of those, 55 were girls — most less than 15 years old — 27 were boys, and one was a baby strapped to a girl. Nineteen children were used last year, according to UNICEF. The Boko Haram insurgency, now in its eighth year, has claimed over 20,000 lives and forced more than two million people to flee their homes over eight years. SOURCE: 22 August 2017, Reuters

(U) PREPARED BY THE CALIFORNIA STATE THREAT ASSESSMENT CENTER.

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